

WEST LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Where We Stand

06/30/2020

In response to the many questions and concerns regarding policing in America today, we have put together a progressive plan to assist in answering questions and moving forward. A plan that brings change, action, transparency, accountability and educates our community on where their West Lafayette Police Department stands during this time.

Attached you will find a resource that takes a comprehensive look at your West Lafayette Police Department. A resource that answers many of the questions being asked by communities across the country regarding use of force, training, body camera's, Police Merit Commission, and other important policy information.

We have taken a thorough look at our current policies and have taken steps to ensure our officers are held to the highest level of accountability. To add a layer of transparency we will also begin the process of displaying our department policies and Merit Board Rules and Regulations on the West Lafayette City webpage, which will be accessible to the public.

This year, for the first time, we were able to earmark funds to be used for the sole purpose of recruiting the best and brightest candidates. A concerted effort will be placed on recruiting minority candidates that best mirror our communities' demographics.

We have been actively engaged with our local NAACP chapter, city council members, as well as our local interfaith community in addressing our community's needs. These ongoing meetings have surfaced many new initiatives and have helped guide us in moving forward together.

We will also begin a new program that will highlight, in short 5-minute video clips, many of the procedures in place here at WLPD. Some of those topics will include our hiring process, what the Police Merit Commission oversees, our complaint process, our training program, activities for the community to participate in and many more.

As we move forward together, we will continue to meet with community organizations in order to help us see blind spots in how our Department operates. We are also committed to maintaining and strengthening the trust of our communities who grant us the privilege to serve them. Thank you for supporting the great men and women of your police department who have dedicated their lives to ensuring your safety here in West Lafayette.

Troy Harris

Chief of Police